



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held July 24, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“Medical research suggests tobacco products cause such diseases as cancer, heart disease, and other adverse health effects. One in every seven deaths in Los Angeles County is caused by cigarette smoking, yet, tobacco use is one of the most preventable causes of disease and premature deaths. In spite of prevention and intervention efforts directed at tobacco use, the tobacco industry continues to succeed in retaining current smokers and attracting new ones, particularly youth smokers, through marketing and advertising. While Congress has the responsibility to regulate tobacco products as interstate commerce, there is limited federal authority to regulate tobacco products and the advertisement and promotion of such products.

“Now, in an effort to regulate the content and marketing of tobacco products, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act has been introduced in both houses of Congress as S. 625 and H.R. 1108 by United States Senators Edward Kennedy and John Cornyn and United States Representatives Henry Waxman and Tom Davis, respectively. Both bills will allow the Federal Food and Drug Administration to regulate the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of tobacco products. In the interest of public health, the tobacco industry will be subject to more stringent, ongoing oversight.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Burke, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Molina, Burke, and Yaroslavsky; Noes: Supervisor Knabe (Supervisor Antonovich being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in support of S. 625 (Kennedy and Cornyn) and H.R. 1108 (Waxman and Davis), the Family Smoking and Tobacco Control Act, legislation which will allow the Federal Food and Drug Administration to regulate the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of tobacco products;

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2. Instructed the Chief Executive Officer to send a five-signature letter to the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation expressing the Board's support for both S. 625 and H.R. 1108; and
3. Instructed the County's Legislative Advocates in Washington, D.C. to pursue the County's position on these important public health bills.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel

Letters sent to:

Senator Edward M. Kennedy
Representative Henry A. Waxman